GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3086
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2015
National Waterways Projects
Gandhi Dr. Dharam Vira

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a project of National Waterways under Inland Waterways Authority of India;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the budget allocated for the project;
(c) the current status of the National Watereways-1 and the time by which this project is likely to be completed; and
(d) whether the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) regarding the project has been concluded and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a)&(b):The Inland Waterways Authority of India is vested with the responsibility to develop and regulate inland waterways, primarily those, which are declared as National Waterways (NWs) under the relevant Act. The following five waterways have been declared as National Waterways so far:-

(i) Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system (Allahabad-Haldia-1620 km) as NW-1.
(ii) River Brahmaputra (Dhubri-Sadiya-891 km) as NW-2.
(iii) West Coast Canal (Kottapuram-Kollam) along with Udyogmandal and Champakara Canals- (205 km) as NW-3.
(iv) Kakinada-Puducherry canals along with Godavari and Krishna river (1078 km) as NW-4.
(v) East Coast Canal integrated with Brahmaniriver and Mahanadi delta rivers (588 km) as
NW-5.

The budgetary allocation for the current financial year for the development of above five NWs is Rs.300 crore.

(c): The National Waterway-1 is already developed to a large extent and operational. Targetted depth in different stretches between Haldia and Allahabad has been achieved and navigational aids and a combination of fixed and floating jetties at strategic locations with cargo handling facilities along with storage facilities have been provided. As the development and maintenance of National Waterway is a continuous process, these are being attended to on an annual basis. A World Bank aided project for capacity augmentation of National Waterway-1 aims at improving the navigational capacity of the waterway.

(d): After declaration of any waterway as National Waterway, a Detailed Project Report (DPR) is prepared. Before undertaking infrastructure developmental works on any National Waterway, an Environmental Impact Assessment study and Environment Management Plan preparation is taken up if the same is required as per applicable rules and regulation.

*****